LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending <u>appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones, the method</u> ~~service provider specific messages~~ comprising:

A.   scheduling an appointment <u>for a first patient and a second patient</u> in a reminder scheduler<u>;</u>

<u>reading a plurality of patient records from a file exported from a practice management system of a dental business, the plurality of records comprising first and second records;</u>

B. ~~getting one or more items of customer data associated with said appointment~~ <u>identifying appointment data of the first patient, the first record comprising the appointment data of the first patient, wherein the appointment data indicates the scheduled appointment for the first patient;</u>

C. ~~retrieving one or more items of local service provider data based on said one or more items of customer data~~ <u>identifying a telephone number of the first patient, the first record comprising the telephone number of the first patient;</u>

[[D.]] creating a <u>first text</u> message<u>, the first text message comprising the appointment data of the first patient</u> ~~in said reminder scheduler using said one or more items of local service provider data and said one or more items of customer data;~~

E. ~~determining from said one or more items of customer data and said one or more items of system data a local service provider gateway; and~~

sending the first text message to the telephone number of the first patient; ~~F. said message~~

~~based on said appointment to a said local service provider gateway.~~

identifying appointment data of the second patient, the second record comprising the

appointment data of the second patient, wherein the appointment data indicates

the scheduled appointment for the second patient;

identifying a telephone number of the second patient, the second record comprising the

telephone number of the second patient;

creating a second text message, the second text message comprising the appointment data

of the second patient;

sending the second text message to the telephone number of the second patient.

2.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones ~~service provider specific messages~~ as recited in claim 1, wherein reading a plurality of patient records comprises reading patient data posted via an https socket ~~further comprising the step of sending said message from said local service provider gateway to a messaging device~~.

3.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones ~~service provider specific messages~~ as recited in claim [[2]]1, further comprising generating reminders for each patient identified in the plurality of patient records ~~wherein said messaging device is selected from the group consisting of a telephone, a pager, and an e-mail system~~.

4.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones ~~service provider specific messages~~ as recited in claim 1, further comprising validating a name and unique identifier of the first patient ~~wherein said message is selected from the group consisting of a text message, an e-mail message, and a pager message~~.

5.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending ~~appointment reminders to patients'~~ mobile telephones ~~service provider specific messages~~ as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a log-in request via a browser of the dental business; ~~wherein at least one of said one or more items of customer data is a telephone number~~

querying the dental business to determine whether the dental business wants to import patient data;

receiving a response indicating that the dental business wants to import patient data;

importing the patient data, wherein importing the patient data comprises reading the plurality of patient records.

6.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones ~~service provider specific messages~~ as recited in claim 1, further comprising configuring message settings of the text message based a preference of the patient.

~~configuring message settings for the text message wherein generating said message is based on a rules engine.~~

7.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones ~~service provider specific messages~~ as recited in claim 1, wherein the preference of the patient comprises a time that the text message will be sent ~~wherein said messages are sent at configurable times.~~

8.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending ~~appointment reminders to~~ appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones ~~service provider specific messages~~ as recited in claim 1 wherein creating ~~said~~ the text message is based on a template.

9.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending ~~appointment reminders to~~ appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones ~~service provider specific messages~~ as recited in claim [[1]]8, further comprising defining a message template, the message template comprising first and second tokens ~~wherein sending said message is based on a template~~.

10.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending ~~appointment reminders to~~ appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones ~~service provider specific messages~~ as recited in claim [[1]]9 wherein creating the text message based on the template comprises replacing the first token with a name of the patient and replacing the second token with a time of an appointment of the patient ~~said one or more items of subscriber data is in a database~~.

11.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending ~~appointment reminders to~~ appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones ~~service provider specific messages~~ as recited in claim 1 wherein the text message comprises information that identifies the dental business ~~said messages are sent over a network~~.

12.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones service provider specific messages as recited in claim [[11]]1 wherein reading a plurality of patient records is performed by a web server said network is the Internet.

13.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones service provider specific messages as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

retrieving local service provider data based on the patient records the step of scheduling an appointment on a Graphical User Interface.

14.   (Currently Amended) A method for sending appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones service provider specific messages as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining a local service provider gateway based on the patient records the step of importing said customer data from a practice management system.

15-28. (Canceled)

29.   (New) A system for sending appointment reminders to patients' mobile telephones, the system comprising:

a reminder scheduler programmed to schedule an appointment for a patient;

a web server programmed to receive patient data from a practice management system of a subscriber's computer, the patient data comprising appointment data, wherein the appointment data indicates the scheduled appointment;

a first database configured to store the patient data;

the reminder scheduler programmed to determine when to send a text message reminder to a patient based on the appointment data;

a rules engine programmed to determine a device to which the text message reminder is to be sent.

30.   (New) The system of claim 29, further comprising a system gateway configured to send the message to a local service provider gateway.

31.   (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the subscriber comprises a dental business.

32.   (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the subscriber comprises a medical business.

33.   (New) The system of claim 29, further comprising a second database configured to store system data, the system data comprising template information for generating the text message.